

ANNUAL REPORT

THE SELECTMEN

OF THE

TOWN OF MEREDITH,

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING MARCH 1, 1863.

REPORT.

Town of Meredith in account with Selectmen:—

By cash of C. R. Swain on Collector's list 1861	\$393 63
D. S. Bedee	75 00
Nathan Boynton for supplies	3 97
For use of town hall	1 50
Of county	68 81
Litterary funds	124 47
State volunteer aid	875 90
For use of town hall	1 50
For use of town hall	2 00
OFF, M. & C. S. Prescott for hire	4 42
N. B. Wadleigh on account new road	25 00
Wm Sanborn for cattle	93 00
T. L. Smith for calf	5 00
G. H. Gilman for oxen	90 00
D. S. Bedee Collector for 1862	2701 58
Horace H. Eastman Collector for 1862	1717 39
D. S. Bedee Collector's list 1861	25 80
C. R. Swain Collector's list 1861	50 70
	<u>\$6259 67</u>

MONEY BORROWED TO PAY SOLDIERS' FAMILIES AND BOUNTY.

By cash of James H. Plaisted	\$2000 00
Nathaniel Batchelder	450 00
Edwin E. Bedee	500 00
S. D. Pease	100 00
James H. Plaisted	500 00
George H. Clark	200 00
Thomas L. Leavitt	125 00
Levi S. Swain	225 00

By cash of Mary J. Leavitt	50 00
Mary Giles	50 00
S. D. Pease	101 75
James S. Eullerton	90 00
Moulton H. Marston	1454 25
Wm. W. Batchelder	100 00
Joseph W. Robinson	300 00
James H. Plaisted	500 00
Gorden Bunker	700 00
	<hr/>
	\$7446 00
Amount brought forward	6259 67
	<hr/>
Whole amount	\$13705 67

FOR SCHOOLS.

Te paid Abram Bryant prud'l com. dis't No. 1	\$10 00
Gilman Clark " " 2	60 25
David Clark " " 3	65 33
Levi Towle " " 4	91 82
J. P. Norriss " C. H. 24	6 17
C. H. Ela " dis't No. 5	301 39
B. F. Wiggin " " 6	69 79
B. C. Tuttle " " 7	40 52
M. C. Pease " " 8	80 57
B. M. Batchelder " " 9	43 18
S. M. Glidden " " 10	45 85
J. S. Dolloff " " 11	35 11
S. L. Lawrence " " 12	53 17
Hosea S. Swain " " 13	30 11
Ira E. Gordon " " 14	21 57
J. C. Wadleigh " " 15	38 33
H. H. Eastman " " 16	27 27
Bufus Clark " " 17	36 46
Daniel Huse " " 20	2 95
B. F. Wentworth " " 20	40 17

\$1100 00

FOR EXTERNAL POOR.

Paid Wm. D. Prescott for care of Wm. Prescott's boy to March 18th 1862 6 weeks	\$6 00
Dr. D. S. Prescott for doctoring Doreus Pauls	600
E. Winch & Co. for B. Failing	4 09
E. Winch & Co. for John Dockham	4 00
Dr. George W. Sanborn for doctoring 1861	45 00
Dr. Geo. W. Sanborn for doctoring Prescott boy	5 00
Wm. D. Prescott care of Wm. Prescott's boy	5 00

Paid Charles Hall care Wm. Prescott's boy	50
Mrs. Martha Clark for boarding Elsa Dockham	9 00
Town Grafton balance bill for Joseph Moses	35 83
Thomas Roberts boarding and clothing Prescott girl	2 06
Mrs. J. M. Smith	25 00
Mrs. Hiram Stevens making clothes for L. Sanborn girl	3 00
Mrs. O. P. Payne rent for Mrs. J. Tebbetts	2 50
Dr. H. H. Smith for doctoring 1862	11 25
Joseph Prescott board and care Wm. Prescott	10 00
Mrs. S. H. Cornell boarding L. Sanborn girl	4 82
Mrs. S. H. Cornell furnishing and making clothes for L. Sanborn girl	1 61
James H. Tilton wood for Mrs. Marsh	5 00
Mrs. Maria Smith boarding A. Clark's children	1 00
T. L. Grant supplies for Mrs. B. Robinson	17 59
Charles Sanborn wood for Dorcus Pauls	7 00
Joseph G. Chapman, Orange, for Staple boy	51 00
George E. Chase & Co supplies for Dorcas Paul	62 39
T. L. Grant wood and supplies for Mrs. Marsh	16 00
Dr. D. S. Prescott medicine for J. Paule	1 91
doctoring Dorcas Pauls	6 47
S. D. Pease hay for B. Folling county pauper	3 00
wood for Mrs J. Tebbetts	7 50
H. Adams for stove pipe and bedstead for J. Jenness	1 50
Thomas Clark for boarding Mrs R. Bryant county pauper	21 00
Hosea F. Hall supplies Chas. Hall	2 00
Merrill & Co for supplies G. W. Ham's family	34 50
Taylor L. Grant self and horse to Orange	4 40
cash paid out for paupers	2 62
services and cash pd for Clark family	1 15
Taylor L. Grant cash paid out for Prescott girl	3 35
J. W. Lang supplies for J. P. Jenness	52 90
J. M & C. S Prescott shoes for Joshua Jenness	1 37
Prescott girl	95
Chas Hall	1 84
Betsey McCrillis	67
Sarah Jenness	1 67
R. W. Parker supplies A. Clark family	75 06
James L. Merrill	2 38
Taylor L. Grant supplies James L. Merrill	6 90
G. W. Hall boarding C. Hall to March 1, 1863	11 00
B. D. Plaisted supplies for Chas Hall	2 59

Paid B. D. Plaisted supplies for Sarah Jenness 4 00
John Dockham 1 75

Paid Dr. G. Sanborn for doctoring J. W. Merrill's family 3 00

Dr. G. Sanborn doctoring Mrs. T. R. Dockham 1 50

Dr. G. Sanborn for vaccinating 75

G. M. Burleigh books for E. Berry children
Tamworth 1 74

G. M. Burleigh books for S. Nichols children 1 39

G. M. Burleigh " " Prescott girl 55

G. M. Burleigh medicine C. Hall 48

G. M. Burleigh book for Sanborn girl 15

G. M. Burleigh camphor for B. McCrillis 15

S. W. Rollins examining records and cash paid
out Wolfboro 1 56

Mrs. S. S. Smith house rent for B. McCrillis 7 50

Levi Towle supplies for Wm. D. Prescott 75

E. Winch & Co. supplies for N. Boynton 2 10

" " C. Hall 9 45

" " Mrs. J. Tebbett 10 86

" " Betsey McCrillis 18 96

" " Joshua Jennis 9 72

" " L. Sanborn girl 7 57

" " John Dockham 38 25

" " John Elliot Sand- 2 16

" " E. Winch & Co supplies for Simeon Nichols 7 98

" " Wm. Prescott's family 3 97

E. Winch & Co. supplies for J. P. Jenness 40

" " family 3 97

E. Winch & Co. supplies for J. P. Jenness 40

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

" " family 3 97

POOR FARM.

To Paid J. M. & C. S. Prescott shoe work 7 99

J. S. Neal for oxen 105 00

John Neally for pasturing oxen 12 00

S. D. Pease for cow 20 00

Greenleaf Maloon for blacksmith work 5 65

J. W. Bedee supplies 75 25

G. M. Burleigh medicine, &c 3 27

Clark & Conny coffin for B. Foss 5 00

J. S. Neal seed wheat 5 00

James Roberts sawing shingle T. F. Building 5 88

E. Winch & Co supplies 134 92

T. L. Smith for labor and bills paid out 12 43

" " for services year ending March, 1888 11 00

" " for services year ending March, 1889 2 88

" " for services year ending March, 1890 2 88

" " for services year ending March, 1891 2 88

" " for services year ending March, 1892 2 88

1863, (11 months)

206 25
\$598 55

BREAKING ROADS 1861 AND 1862.

Paid Ashad Sanborn (2 bills)	11 20
Andrew W. Hoyt (2 bills)	9 75
Dudley L. Bartletts	8 25
James C. Wadleigh	18 45
Jere. Jenness	2 15
David Corliss Jr	3 45
Warren B. Leavitt	2 00
Chas. W. Neal (2 bills)	13 10
Levi Towle	4 45
John C. Gove	4 75
Dan'l B. Whitecher	3 01
Eben L. Sturtevant	2 00
Thomas Roberts	1 92
Sam'l Calef	4 25
T. P. Abbott	4 35
Joshua Payne	2 00
Zeph P. Eaton	1 25
John Neally	3 33
T. E. Lang	7 05
Gideon Piper	6 20
Shepard Rowe	5 85
E. S. Mauton	7 50
J. S. Prescott	2 75
J. M. Neal (2 bills)	16 00
John Webster	1 20
Isaac Webster (1860 and 1861)	2 00
David R. Lovejoy	5 45
B. G. Young	2 60
J. P. Norris	2 00
R. Foresaith	11 70
Jona. Brown	6 10
J. S. Dolloff	11 91
R. S. Dow	7 20
J. Dearborn	50
P. P. Nichols	1 25
John Chase	2 57
James Bickford	4 05
G. W. Shores	2 16
H. Marston	3 75
Eben Dow	65
J. H. Plaisted	12 35
A. E. Leavitt	4 80
B. C. Batchelder	2 81

Paid D. W. Drake	1 20
J. F. Perkins	1 75
Rufus Clark	8 05
T. L. Leavitt (1860 and 1861)	4 50
Smith Swain,	1 79
S. L. Lawrence	2 45
D. S. Randlett	4 83
S. Dow	1 87
N. L. True	5 70
H. H. Eastman (1860)	10 00
N. W. Smith	6 30
H. Marston	1 20
B: F. Wiggia	5 00
J. S. Pease	7 25
Ashad Sanborn	2 45
James Roberts	15
John Smith	1 95

 \$296 30

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Paid Welch & Prescott stone for culvert	4 75
J. C. Gove for culvert	3 50
J. S. Hart work on new road and stone for culvert	7 80
Elisha S. Veasey plank for bridge	4 08
H. F. Swain stone for culvert	4 20
J. M. Chase for work and plank	2 71
N. W. Smith for culvert	2 00
P. Clough repairing road	65
S. D. Pease work on Pike road	1 50
Waldo Maleon for repairing boat	8 00
H. H. Gilman repairing bridge	2 00
J. C. Wadleigh labor on turnpike road	37 40
J. Knowlton " " Plummer road	10 95
P. Severance for guide boards	5 03
S. D. Pease for building new road Meredith Village	75 48
T. L. Grant services on roads and bridges	8 50
J. W. Lang spikes for Bear Island boat	2 98
N. B. Wadleigh plank for B. I. boat and cause- ways	52 74
E. W. Prescott spikes for Bear Island boat	2 25
C. S. Prescott award for new road and interest	51 00
J. W. Bedee powder and fuse	2 78
C. A. Ranlet stone culvert and powder	3 50
J. S. Plummer for plank	2 88

Paid E. Winch & Co material to fill breach in road	1 75
“ pd Berry & Boynton labor	1 35
“ V. Red and oil for B. I. boat	3 15

 \$302 92

TOWN OF MEREDITH FOR GENERAL EXPENDITURES.

Paid H. S. Swain service as S. School Committee	20 00
Balance due Selectmen	64 69
G. S. Cram repairs on Town House	25
J. K. Clough care of Town Hall	3 00
W. B. Durgin for Police badges &c	3 75
“ “ Telegram	30
B. S. Tuttle damage to sleigh	50
Levi Towle expenses and services as Selectman, 1861,	6 10
Thos. L. Smith note and interest	21 27
E. W. Prescott services as police	6 00
John B. Swain for keeping transient man	1 00
J. Dearborn for surveying	50
S. D. Pease interest on note	10
B. Burnham services school committee	23 00
Postage	1 02
McFarland & Jenks printing report	23 00
Phosphate lime	3 70
Wamesit engine company	70 00
J. M. Wiggin for drafting plan	1 00
Tirzah Corliss interest on note	47 08
G. M. Burleigh record book	7 25
J. H. Plaisted (two notes)	544 40
Express on package money	75
Isaiah Winch services as Selectman	43 45
James H. Plaisted for police	10 00
D. S. Bedee for boarding Selectman and keeping horse	39 50
McFarland & Jenks for blank notes	1 00
J. M. Clogston damage on horse	28 00
Referees in J. M. Clogston case	5 35
J. Gordon for insurance	2 20
J. B. Batchelder advertising note	1 00
Amos Cram repairing lobby	24
Calvin Robinson, New Hampton, damage on waggon	1 00
J. Bowen damage for flowage 1861 and 1862	4 00
J. W. Chase error in taxes 1861	1 00
H. Bedee attending court, committing J. Elliot to jail and for watering trough	11 06
Paid County tax	744,85

Paid Jacob Smith error in taxes 1861	1 83
Noah Pease services as Auditor	1 00
Samuel Bean interest on note	24 00
T. L. Grant watering trough	2 00
T. L. Grant express	33
T. L. Grant cash paid out on town business	38
T. L. Grant enrolling militia	9 00
T. L. Grant books and stationery	1 94
T. L. Grant note stamps	1 35
T. L. Grant use of horse and wagon	13 45
G. M. Burleigh blank book	20
G. M. Burleigh blank warrants &c	3 65
S. W. Rollins legal advice as per voucher	4 00
J. Ela services as auditor	1 50
S. J. Pitman services as town clerk	25 00
S. J. Pitman copying records for selectmen	3 00
S. J. Pitman paid D. G. Sanborn for return of deaths and births	1 10
S. J. Pitman paid J. H. Sanborn for return of deaths and births	3 00
S. J. Pitman postage and stationery	1 50
S. J. Pitman copying enrollment	1 00
S. D. Pease services as selectman up to March 11, 1863	96 25
S. D. Pease use of horse and cash paid out	16 00
D. Pease list abatements Collector's list 1861	16 43
State tax	372 00
Error in D. Smith's tax 1861	6 67
D. S. Bedee list abatements 1862	25 41
D. S. Bedee abatement Frank Calley tax 1862	1 80
D. S. Bedee services for collecting in full for 1862	45 00
D. S. Bedee due on Collector's list 1862	364 75
T. L. Grant services as selectman to March 11, 1863	69 00
C. R. Swain abatements taxes Col. list 1861	58 27
C. H. Perkins endorsed on note for bounty	25 00
E. Winch & Co. wood for town house	2 00
D. S. Bedee boarding selectmen and horse keeping	24 87
E. Winch & Co. wood, lights and stationery	2 50
	<hr/>
	\$2966 49

AID TO VOLUNTEER'S FAMILIES.

Amount paid to aid the families of volunteers from
Sept. 9, 1862 to Feb. 10, 1863 \$2510 61

Amount paid to aid the families of volunteers in
full up to June 1st 1862

645 59

\$3156 20

BOUNTY PAID.

Amount cash paid bounty to volunteer soldiers \$4745 00

Amount settled by note now due 2255 00

RECAPITULATION.

Dr To whole amount paid out as follows :

For schools	1100 01
External poor	724 01
Poor Farm bills	598 55
Breaking roads	296 50
Roads and Bridges	302 94
General expenditures	2966 49
Aid to volunteer families	3156 20
Bounty to volunteers	4745 00

13889 70

Credit.

By whole amount receipts \$13705 67

Bal. due Selectmen \$184 03

Having examined the foregoing accounts of the Selectmen, we find them correctly cast and well vouched.

JOSEPH W. LANG, }
LANE PLUMMER, } Auditors.

INVOICE OF PROPERTY AT THE POOR FARM.

1 pair oxen	\$125 00	1 bush salt	\$0 75
5 cows	115 00	48 lbs butter	9 60
2 yearlings	15 00	35 lbs lard	5 00
3 shoats	26 00	10 lbs cheese	1 00
12 tons hay	120 00	30 lbs tallow & candles	4 00
6 m shingle	12 00	Soap and tub	3 00
Lot lumber	3 00	Barrels, tubs and arti-	
40 bush corn	40 00	cles in cellar	10 00
10 bush wheat	18 00	5 gals molasses	2 25
100 lbs. fresh beef		$\frac{1}{2}$ bbl flour	4 50
and pork	8 00	30 cords wood fitted for	
$\frac{1}{2}$ bush bean	1 00	stove	70 00
50 bush potatoes	12 50	Household furniture	125 00
300 lbs salt beef	20 00	Tool and farming uten-	
350 lbs salt pork	35 00	sels	50 00
5 bush rye	5 00		

\$840 60

NAMES AND AGES OF PERSONS AT THE POOR FARM.

MALES.	AGE.	FEMALES.	AGE.
Smith Leavitt	68	Rhoda Farrar	64
John W. Sanborn	47	Dolly Prescott	20
John Batchelder	54	Mary E. Libby	18
George Prescott	11	Loisa Prescott	3
John Prescott	9 months		

DIED.

Benjamin Foss

aged 79

The financial affairs of the town are as follows :

LIABILITIES.

David R. Lovejoy note and interest	\$130 97
Samuel Bean	400 00
David Corliss	441 59
Tirzah Corliss	367 98
Clarissa Corliss	441 59
W. A. Sanborn	1157 39
Gideon Piper	115 29
Simeon D. Pease	108 12
David Plummer award land damage	45 00
Borrowed to pay bounty to volunteers and aid to volunteer families (see page 1st)	7446 00
Due volunteers for bounty (settled by note)	2255 00
Balance due Selectmen	184 03
	<hr/> \$13092 87

ASSETS.

Due on B. M. Batchelder's tax list for 1860	\$8 78
Due on D. S. Bedee's tax list for '61	112 77
D. S. Bedee's tax list for '62	364 75
H. H. Eastman's tax list for 1862	80 07
Due from State for aid to volunteer families	2510 61
	<hr/> \$3076 98

Balance of Liabilities

\$10015 89

The foregoing report is respectfully submitted.

SIMEON D. PEASE, } Selectmen of
TAYLOR L. GRANT, } Meredith.

LIQUOR REPORT.

Town of Meredith in account with Beniah D. Plaisted,
Liquor Agent, from Feb'y 22, 1862, to Feb'y 22, 1863.

Liquors and Freight	\$569 13
Services as agent	50 00

To United States tax

20 00

\$639 13

Credit.

By sales of liquor and casks \$529 13

Liquor on hand 100 00

Advance in price of liquor 10 00

\$639 13

B. D. PLAISTED, Agent.

REPORT

OF THE SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

In making our report we endeavor as much as in us lies to lay aside all prejudice for or against individuals. Some may be dissatisfied with portions of our report; yet, however highly we may be able to speak of some as individuals we must bear in mind that every good man is not good for every place.

We would here observe, that no one finding himself deficient in nervous energy and "mental vivacity" should ever aspire to the teacher's chair.

Our teachers must bear this constantly in mind, that they must be unceasing in their endeavors for self improvement and plainness in method of teaching. We say this with equal emphasis to those intending to teach; for it is very necessary in order to keep good New Hampshire's great occupation—"raising men."

Schoolhouses have generally been kept in very good order, and commendably free from piles of dirt.

There has been a marked improvement in filling out registers, and we hope it will continue.

We must call attention to the deficiency of a majority of our teachers in penmanship, and its neglect in our common school.—This is one of the four branches originally taught in our schools, and should not now be passed by. It is a source of great help to the poor in school, and this is a very strong reason why it should not be neglected. At least one fourth of three days in each week should be devoted to writing. We are convinced that no one of the branches commonly taught in our schools is so much neglected as this. The uniform series of books introduced into most of our schools two years since, is already producing good fruit, in the better classification of the scholars, and consequently in securing for each class much more care and attention from the teachers.

One subject your committee wish to bring distinctly before the mind of every citizen of the town, especially those who have children to be educated. The original proprietors of the town donated two hundred acres of land to the town, on condition that the avails or rents of these lands be applied according to the stipulations of the grant, viz: The avails or rents of one hundred acres of said land to be applied to schools FOREVER, and the avails of the remaining hundred acres be applied *forever* for the support of the gospel ministry. These lands were eventually sold by the town, and the money put to interest, and the interest for many years was applied to the specific objects named in the grant, but for the last few years nothing has been paid by the town from this fund to either of the objects specified. This money has been used by the town in direct violation of the terms of the grant. This is both unjust to the schools and the religious societies of the town, and lays the town liable to damages, if not to the forfeiture of the whole fund. The town have no more right to use this money for any other purposes than those named in the grant, than they have to take it from the pockets of the select.

men. The amount of the school fund as handed to your committee by one of a former board of selectmen is \$2589,30. The interest of this sum would be something more than \$140 per annum which ought to go to lengthen out our schools. The amount of the parsonage fund we have not ascertained, but the town records will show.

All of which we most respectfully submit.

CHARLES BURNHAM, } Superintending
HOSEA S. SWAIN, } School Committee.

Meredith, Feb. 25th, 1863.

DISTRICT NO. 1.

This district embraces Bear Island, and is very small, having but three scholars, and a school of but five weeks, which was taught by Miss Arvilla J. Bryant of that district. Your committee did not visit this school, on account of the difficulty in securing a passage across the water, but I learn by the register that the school made very commendable progress.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

The summer term of this school was taught by Miss Olive A. Philbrook of Gilford. I have examined no teacher who has passed a more satisfactory examination than Miss P., and when I visited the school near its commencement, I was well pleased with the appearance of the school and the tact and energy of the teacher. The school closed abruptly a week earlier than was expected, because nearly all the scholars were taken out of the school by their parents, not because the teacher did not understand her business, and had not given satisfaction so far as *teaching* was concerned, but because of a single case of corporeal punishment, which the parents judged to be too severe. The Prudential Committee of the district was disposed, as I understand him, to justify the teacher. Order must be had in our schools, or no progress can be made, and teachers must be sustained in the government of the schools, unless they are far too rigorous and severe. Teachers far more frequently fail in not being strict enough. Parents greatly mistake their duty when they take their children from school because they are punished; they had far better punish them again at home, and send them back; then scholars would soon learn to obey good and wholesome rulers. The school made praiseworthy progress in their studies.

The winter term of this school was taught by Mr. J. Cove Beede of Sandwich. This was his first school, and he sustained himself well. He has energy and tact in the schoolroom, and he commanded the respect of his scholars. He bids fair to make a successful teacher. Under his charge the school prospered, and so far as the committee are apprised, satisfied the expectations of his employers.

NO. 3.

The Gilman district on the Neck was taught both summer and winter term by Miss Lavinia S. Leavitt of Meredith. She is a teacher of experience, and does her duty faithfully in the schoolroom.—The order in this school was *decidedly good*, and as a natural consequence, the progress of the school was great. Two or three classes are worthy of special commendation. One class went through Greenleaf's National Arithmetic and Algebra and reviewed the same, and they understand it, and are abundantly qualified to teach any school in the town. The same class are very good grammarians. The second class in grammar made very fine progress, and your committee was highly pleased with its appearance. The first class in reading, also, are worthy of special commendation.

DISTRICT NO. 4.

This school was taught both summer and winter by the same teacher, Miss Julia A. Davis of Lake Village. She is a good teacher, of much experience, and so far as your committee are apprised, has always been successful, and given good satisfaction. The order in this school was good, very good, and the proficiency made highly praise-

worthy. The district have much reason for rejoicing that they have had so judicious, faithful and successful a teacher.

DISTRICT NO. 5.

This district comprises Meredith Village, and is divided into two departments; the first includes the more advanced scholars, the second the less advanced. This is the largest school in town, and the most *ungovernable*; but your committee is happy to say that there has been a very marked improvement in this respect, especially during the winter term. The summer term, in the advance department, was taught by Miss Esther A. Page of Meredith. She is a good teacher, understands well her vocation, and has the faculty to impart instruction with ease and facility. The discipline and order in the school improved under her charge, and the progress made was commendable. There are some *very* good readers in the first class, and a few that excel in arithmetic. The winter term in this department was taught by Mr. Charles S. Gill of Exeter. He is a good and efficient teacher, and under his charge the order and discipline of the school were much improved, and the progress made by the school as great perhaps as could be expected under all the circumstances. There is very great irregularity and lack of punctuality in attendance on the part of very many of the scholars, as may be seen in the schedule at the end of the report. Much of the benefit of the school is lost, and its progress is greatly retarded by this irregularity. The fault is with the parent.

Both the summer and winter term in the other department was taught by Miss Edna Ela of this village. The school was very orderly considering the age and number of the scholars. The committee was highly pleased with the appearance of the school and their progress. The teacher has well sustained her good reputation.

A correct and full view of this district cannot be given without taking notice of Miss C. M. Poole's private school, which has taken twenty-seven from the regular district school. This school has three terms each year of twelve weeks each. The whole number of regular scholars in this school during the year has been sixty-five. Twenty-seven of these have attended no other school. This school has been well patronized and quite successful. Miss Poole is an experienced teacher, and her works are her sufficient and best recommendation.

DISTRICT NO. 6.

This is known as the district on Ladd's Hill. The summer term was taught by Miss Julia A. Davis, the same as taught in district No. 4. The order, system, and regularity with which everything was conducted in the schoolroom is worthy of all praise. This is one of the best schools in town, if not *the best*. Two reasons may be assigned why it is so. 1st, the district intend to have the very best teachers, and no others; 2nd, all the people take a deep interest in the school; they often visit it, and thus encourage both the teacher and scholars. Such a school must necessarily be a success. The winter term of this school was under the instruction of Miss A. Melissa Gordon of New Hampton. She is one of our very best teachers, and is unwearied in her efforts to advance the pupils. She has the happy faculty of infusing a large amount of enthusiasm into her pupils, and as a natural consequence they are studious and make rapid progress. In this school there are two or three very *superior* scholars. The deportment of the scholars is exemplary. In the school there is much, very much to commend and little to condemn. The *schoolhouse* has but two things to commend it to respect: its *antiquity* and its cleanliness within; but in justice I must add, arrangements are now making to erect a new house the present year.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

This is a union district, partly in Laconia and partly in Meredith. The summer term was taught by Miss Abbie N. Tuttle of Meredith. She is an experienced teacher, and well qualified for the duties of the school-room. She imparts instruction with ease. The order in

the school was not as good as could be desired, and it probably would have been improved by more decision on the part of the teacher, however the school made considerable progress.

The winter term was taught by Mrs. E. E. S. Wadleigh of Laconia. She is an experienced teacher, understands well her duties, and has the disposition to discharge them with fidelity. She has perhaps too much of the "*suaviter in modo*" (mild in measures) and not quite enough of the "*fortiter in re*," firmness in execution. The order in this school was probably average. The most marked deficiency your committee noticed in this school was in the reading. The reading, as a whole, was inferior to that in a majority of the schools visited. In justice to the teacher I will here enter her own *Demurer*. "It is impossible to unite the classes so as to satisfy all parties, and the consequence is that not one half the time is given to each class that there should be. The parents do not take interest enough to visit the school often." In classing schools in a school there is really but one party to suit, the teacher. But that party cannot always be suited. The register shows the true difficulty under which this teacher labored. There were four different arithmetics used in this school, three different grammars, and two sets of reading books.—Why will not parents understand that they lose more than half the benefits of their schools by not having a uniform series of books? This is a union district and your committee has no right to impose upon it the series of books adopted by the town. This district ought to adopt a series of books for the school, if they do not like the series adopted by this town, then let them adopt some other uniform series.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

This school was taught both terms by Miss Martha M. Woodman of New Hampton. She is in every respect a superb teacher, she has energy, tact, decision and industry. The school was a perfect model of order and decorum. I have never seen it surpassed in any school in this respect, I ask for nothing better. The progress in the school was very, very good. All the classes appeared well. The first class in arithmetic excelled, as did the first class in grammar. There are some excellent readers in the first class. Perhaps the school house had something to do with the success of the school, it is the neatest and best school-house in town.

DISTRICT NO. 20.

This is a union district embracing the village of Centre Harbor and vicinity. It is organized under a special act of the Legislature, and being made up of a portion of three towns, it is visited by your committee only one year in three. It did not fall within my duty to visit this school the present year. There has been twenty four weeks of school the past year, taught by Miss L. Jennie Mason of Loudon. She has been eminently successful, giving, as I am informed, entire satisfaction.

CHAS. BURNHAM, S. S. Committee.

DISTRICT NO. 9.

Meredith Centre, new house. Both terms were taught by Miss Carrie C. Bartlett of Laconia. This was her first attempt at teaching, but she has acquitted herself nobly. She has maintained excellent order throughout, and has succeeded in improving the school very much. The following classes particularly excelled, viz: classes in reading during the summer term, class in "First Lines of Grammar," class in modern Geography, and class in First Reader in reading and spelling in the fall term. Miss Bartlett with proper self culture and experience, gives promise of making one of our best teachers.

DISTRICT NO. 10.

Meredith Centre. This school was taught by Miss S. E. Glidden of that place. This school has made about an average progress. We have marked no classes that made extra improvement, though the classes in Geography seemed to make more noticeable progress than

others. Miss Glidden seems a little deficient in that quickness of perception and fruitfulness of expedient so necessary in the school-room in changing the monotonous routine of exercises, to make them interesting and agreeable to the pupil.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

Dolloff district. This school was in the care of Miss Annie S. Meloon of Meredith. It was a long term—sixteen weeks—and in justice, we cannot report so much improvement made as the district had a right to expect for the time. Miss Meloon lacks dignity, hence failed to secure that respect, which is justly due a teacher; and in our opinion, she would feel more at home, and much better excel in some other employment.

DISTRICT NO. 12.

Perkins district. The summer term was again in the care of Miss M. F. Perkins of that district. I visited this term only at its commencement on account of unseasonable notice. The teacher reports a good course of study and a commendable degree of improvement.

The winter term was taught by Mrs. A. V. Lawrence of that district, who is a teacher of much experience in former years. This term I visited only once, because on the morning of the day appointed for examination, the house was destroyed by fire; therefore the school closed very abruptly. The teacher makes a very good report of the school. She seemed to take much interest in the school, and endeavored to make it as profitable as possible. We are happy to remark that the citizens are making very commendable efforts of the building of a new house.

DISTRICT NO. 13.

Edgerly district. This district had the least number of weeks of school of any district in this part of the town; yet the pupils generally tried to make the most of it; and as the teacher remarked, showed themselves to be of the "material of which men are made." Miss M. F. Perking taught this school also, and the classes generally made such good progress, that we mention no one particularly.

DISTRICT NO. 14.

Union with New Hampton. The summer term was in the care of Miss M. Melissa Eaton of that district. This was her first experience in teaching. The school was very small, and would not test the ability of a teacher like a larger one. The advancement of the school could not be marked above the ordinary progress. A little more self confidence and boldness of action would great assist Miss Eaton in teaching.

The winter term was under the instruction of Miss E. A. Tuttle of Meredith. Miss Tuttle is a teacher of considerable experience and in her care the school has made very fair progress.—We particularly noticed the improvement of the class in Grammar and Parsing, and the class in Algebra.

DISTRICT NO. 15.

James Wadleigh district. The summer term was commenced by Miss Julia A. Wallace of New Hampton, who taught four weeks and was then obliged to leave on account of ill health.

The fall term was taught by Miss Narcissa Dearborn of Sanbornton. Miss Dearborn is a teacher of much experience, and has conducted this school with great credit to herself and satisfaction to the district. The following classes excelled, viz: classes in Arithmetic, class in Grammar, and the class in Parsing made extraordinary progress.

DISTRICT NO. 16.

Eastman district. This school was in the care of Miss A. R. Tilton of Sanbornton. Miss Tilton has had but limited experience in teaching and her success in that school has not been of the highest grade. The advancement of the school is slow, and the fruits of the efforts of teacher may not so plainly be seen. One or two pupils have excelled in their progress.

DISTRICT NO. 17.

Fox district. The summer term was conducted by its former teacher Miss Josephine E. Hodgdon of Sanbornton. Miss Hodgdon improves in teaching, and in her care the school has made good progress. In the department of reading, it has not been beaten in its improvement in this part of the town.

The fall term was taught by Miss Mary E. Smith of Sanbornton. Miss Smith is a teacher of some experience, and in her charge the school has made very good progress.

HOSEA S. SWAIN, S. S. Committee.

TABULAR STATEMENT.

No. of Districts.	Money of District.	Summer } Length of School Winter. }	Average wages of Teachers including board.	Boys } Number of Girls. }	Average Attendance.	Number of tardy marks.	Amount of School Money raised by town tax.	Literary Funds.	Average amount of money to each district.	Average amount to each School.
1	10 00	5	9 00	3	0	3	3	975 54	124 47	60 63
2	60 25	6	13 50	17	13	25	19			
3	65 33	8	18 00	13	12	21	34			
4	91 82	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 00	15	14	16	63			
5	301 39	12	23 75	67	72	100	2318			
6	69 79	9	19 00	10	6	12	149			
7	40 52	8	16 00	12	10	18	50			
8	80 57	8	17 30	20	16	22	483			
9	43 18	8	11 00	18	15	22	10			
10	45 85	12	14 32	11	13	19	73			
11	35 11	16	14 00	10	11	16	85			
12	53 17	6	14 00	9	18	25	81			
13	30 11	8	15 00	11	3	12	21			
14	21 57	8	14 00	2	2	4	3			
15	38 83	4	15 00	7	6	13	73			
16	27 27	13	12 00	5	3	6	18			
17	36 45	6	12 50	5	12	15	11			
20	40 17	12	16 00	7	8	12	57			